

donor community, and show the American people that we are doing development better. With such a limited foreign assistance budget, getting the most out of every dollar that we spend is vital if we are going to beat global hunger and human suffering.

To that end, I am very pleased that the U.S. will be following up on not only what the members of the G8 committed but what they actually delivered. In order for our new food security initiative to succeed, all pledges must have clear accountability mechanisms.

I believe that our own Feed the Future Program, our global hunger and food security initiative, does just that. Feed the Future focuses on small farmers, particularly women. It helps countries to develop their agriculture sectors to generate opportunities for broad-based economic growth and trade, which in turn support increased incomes and help reduce hunger. It is strengthening strategic coordination to align the efforts of the private sector, civil society, and multilateral institutions. And it is delivering on sustained and accountable commitments through robust monitoring and evaluation systems. I look forward to hearing more about the Feed the Future success stories in the months to come, as USAID officials develop and release their accountability reports.

There are a few other elements of the program that I would just like to underscore as someone who cares very deeply about the status of women. First, Feed the Future developed and launched the Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index, a research method which measures the quantity and quality of gender integrated programs. This is essential as we are to continue designing better development programs.

Second, Feed the Future has launched a fund to advance innovative approaches to promote gender equality in agriculture and land use and integrate gender effectively into agricultural development and food security programs. And third, Feed the Future has harnessed the capabilities of other U.S. Government partners such as the Department of Agriculture to develop science-based solutions to many of the problems faced by women farmers.

Feed the Future is already working with the private sector in Africa; just recently USAID announced a unique trilateral partnership between PepsiCo, USAID, and the World Food Program. Through this partnership they will provide a nutritionally fortified feeding product while helping to build long-term economic stability for smallholder chickpea farmers in Ethiopia by involving them directly in PepsiCo's product supply chain.

Ending global hunger is a monumental task. But when the leaders of France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom, Canada, Russia, and the United States join together with our African partners and the most powerful private sector and civil society

organizations in the world, I believe it is one that we can achieve.

BUDGET RESOLUTION VOTES

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Today I wish to discuss a series of votes we took yesterday on five different budget resolutions offered by my colleagues.

I ultimately voted against the budget resolutions offered by my colleagues because they were simply not in line with what I believe our priorities for this country should be.

Like my colleagues, I am very concerned about our long-term fiscal situation. That is why last year I helped pass the Budget Control Act of 2011. This legislation caps spending levels for 2012 and will reduce our deficit by at least \$2.1 trillion over the next 10 years.

In many ways, the Budget Control Act is even more extensive than a traditional congressional budget resolution. Unlike a budget resolution that is not signed by the President, the Budget Control Act has the force of law. It also set discretionary caps for 10 years, instead of the 1 year normally set in a budget resolution.

Believing we should go further, I also voted for a constitutional balanced budget amendment offered by Senator UDALL of Colorado and cosponsored bipartisan legislation to give the President line-item veto authority to go after wasteful spending.

The key difference between the Budget Control Act and the budget resolutions that were offered yesterday is that the Budget Control Act did not achieve its savings on the backs of the middle class while at the same time giving more tax breaks to the wealthiest Americans.

In 2010, I worked with 14 Senators to block a statutory increase of our national debt limit until the Senate agreed to set up the bipartisan National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility. While I do not agree with every single recommendation included in the final report, I have made clear through my support for the bipartisan efforts in the Senate to advance this framework and I believe it provides a good starting point for the work we must do to reduce our debt.

This framework would put in place a long-term plan to responsibly reduce the deficit by achieving at least \$4 trillion in debt reduction through a balance of revenue and spending cuts. This is the balanced approach I hear Minnesotans asking for every day, and it is the approach I will continue to insist we take.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

2012 TOP COPS

• Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize five police officers from my home State of Nevada for being honored with the prestigious Na-

tional Association of Police Officers, NAPO, 2012 TOP COPS award for their acts of heroism during a routine fraud call that turned into a deadly shooting. Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department officers John Abel, Michael Ramirez, Corey Staheli, Beaumont Hopson, and David Williams' overwhelming courage in the line of duty epitomizes the best of what America's police officers have to offer. I am honored to recognize this group of Nevadans whose efforts to go above and beyond their oath to serve is a testament to the strength of our law enforcement community.

This year marks NAPO's 19th annual TOP COPS Awards ceremony to honor members of the law enforcement community for their heroic actions. I stand with NAPO in their dedication to raising public awareness concerning the contributions made by our law enforcement officers to the welfare of our communities. Officer Ramirez literally stood in the line of fire to protect shoppers at a Las Vegas WalMart while attempting to apprehend a criminal. His colleagues bravely answered the call to duty and fatally shot the assailant after he shot Officer Ramirez several times in the arm and once in the chest. Fortunately, Officer Ramirez's bulletproof vest, along with the bravery displayed by his colleagues, saved his life. I am so honored to acknowledge these exceptional individuals who are being recognized for their commitment to the safety, protection, and well-being of the people and community of Las Vegas.

It is a privilege to recognize our law enforcement officers who put their lives on the line for our protection every day. Their dedication to upholding and enforcing the law is essential to the welfare of our communities and is not taken for granted. The citizens of Nevada are proud to honor John, Michael, Corey, Beaumont, and David as TOP COPS and thank them for serving and protecting the Silver State.●

TRIBUTE TO CARY M. MAGUIRE

• Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the remarks of Representative RALPH HALL be printed in the RECORD on the tenacity of Cary M. Maguire, founder, Chair and President of the Dallas-based Mcguire Oil Company and Maguire Energy Company.

The remarks follow.

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Cary M. Maguire, a fellow Texan who exemplifies fortitude, American entrepreneurship, and community service.

Over the past twenty years, Cary's strength of character was tested and proven as he fought for justice in a property rights dispute against the Houston, Texas city government. Despite being dealt a bad hand, court after court, Cary never surrendered. He showed courage and faith that justice would prevail, and his perseverance was ultimately rewarded.

Cary is the founder, Chair, and President of the Dallas-based Maguire Oil Company